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DEKALB NURSERY BULLETIN

De Kalb Street, Norristown, Pa.

Phone 1597

JANUARY, 1925

A MONTHLY VISITOR

Full of practical suggestions—what and when to plant, prune and spray—and seasonable offerings of the many varieties of Trees, Hardy Flowers, Hardy Shrubs, grown and distributed by the DeKalb Nurseries.

CLOSED ON SUNDAY



Adolf Müller
DeKalb Nurseries
Norristown, Pa.



To the readers of the De Kalb Nursery Bulletin, we beg to extend our good wishes for the New Year.

If the ground is not frozen too deeply it is just a fine time now to plant trees. To plant big trees it takes time and labor, and that is why one ought to do this work when both time and labor are available.

In the spring of the year it is a most difficult thing to get all the out-door work done, and for that reason I beg to suggest to do all the planting one can safely and successfully do in winter.

If you can use a big Maple or a big American Elm, we have them in fine quality; these trees are big, from five to ten inches in diameter, and up to twenty feet high. In fact, big enough to give immediate shade, and then too, they are big enough to add and change the whole appearance of the landscape.

By planting these big trees, you are planting many years of growth which you can enjoy without waiting for it.

We just happen to have a big supply of big Maples and big Elms to offer, and if you can make use of any of these trees, you will surely save money if you buy some of them.

We propose to discontinue the raising of trees over four inches in diameter, because we have not room enough, nor do we want to maintain equipment to handle trees that measure over four inches in diameter.

At this time therefore, we have several hundred trees to offer for the nominal price of \$10 each, in the ground; these trees are worth actually three to six times as much. The trees are sold in the ground, that means the buyer must dig and remove them.

We have sold many trees already and they will not last long, but we have decided to make a clean and prompt job of it; we must have room, and if these trees are not sold by February first, then we will cut them up for firewood.

Here is a big opportunity for the person or persons who have use for big well grown trees, to buy many years growth at a sacrifice price. If you are at all interested you should come and see them; some of the Norway Maples are up to ten inches in diameter and over twenty feet high; big enough to produce a lot of shade the first year.

The American Elms are fine big shapely trees also, none better grown, and one cannot make a mistake by planting a high quality Elm tree such as these we are offering. They have been transplanted several times, have a fine root system, and have well developed tops, showing the real type of the American Elm.

Already the leading branches are assuming the shapes of high arches so characteristic of the Elm; no finer statelier tree grows or exists anywhere than the American Elm. They are a study in themselves, unlike many other trees, they grow to great heights without a central leader, every limb seems to bear its burden up high, and together all of the limbs droop their branches Willow fashion.

American Elms are popular all over our country and especially in Europe, where some of them completely arch over streets and are a sight always to be remembered.

A group of Elms planted somewhere near the house soon become to be a feature in the landscape one could hardly duplicate with any other tree.

The Pin Oak and Plane Trees are useful and fast growing shade trees. A Pin Oak in autumn is a picture of real autumn colors, amber, coral, red in every shade, and yellow in all shades. Any tree that colors up like an Oak in the autumn should be planted.

We not only plant for flowers, whether it be tree or shrub, but trees and shrubs are also selected for their foliage and the different coloring of their foliage, and this should be borne more in mind when making new plantings and more of these trees and shrubs should be used for their autumn coloring alone.

To have a share of rich colored foliage in autumn, one should plant Oaks. Pin Oaks grow very symmetrical; the trunk grows straight right through to the top, the leaves hang on till late into winter, and in the autumn these Oak leaves are the most outstandingly colored of all the foliage.

We have several hundred of these trees from twelve to sixteen feet high, fine straight stems and even shaped tops, just the ideal type for planting; these trees can be successfully planted at this time of the year, just so long as the frost is not too deep down in the ground it is proper to transplant any tree.

We still have a large quantity of flowering crab apples; some of them bloomed this past spring, probably a number of them will bloom this year. Those that had flowers on last spring bore the finest crimson red little apples, no bigger than a sour cherry; these apples were borne in ropes, and were the most attractive sight in the Nursery at the time.

The fruits are surely very ornamental all through the fall, also these tiny apples are fine food for our birds. Right where these crab apples are, a large covey of Quail are making their home. These birds know where to look for their food, and have been in the Nursery constantly, living on the fruits and seeds.

We will be pleased to furnish fine sturdy crab apple trees, unnamed varieties, six feet high for \$1.50 each, or \$15.00 per dozen, special prices furnished on 100 or 1000 lots on application.

Black Hill Spruce is a variety of Spruce closely allied to the Blue Spruce, and the well known White Spruce. It varies a good deal, some of the trees are as blue as the Colorado Blue Spruce. They grow very compact and altogether one of the finest of Spruce ever known.

We have them in stock and can offer fine specimens twelve to eighteen inches high for \$1.50 each. This is one of the hardiest of all the native type Spruce, and if you are not familiar with it come and see them.

This is also a good time to plant any kind of hedge, whether it be Berberis, California or Regals Privet. All may be planted now; we have these hedges in stock, and will be glad to furnish them in any quantity on short notice. Do not postpone the planting of a hedge that can be planted now.

We have successfully planted in winter for many years, and have actually moved many thousands of trees, shrubs, evergreens and hedge plants. On two occasions I remember helping to shovel away the snow so we could plant Rhododendrons, and can point out these Rhododendron beds to-day in perfect condition; there was no loss at all.

Now, it may be said that if Rhododendrons may safely be planted in winter, surely it is alright to plant Maples, Elms, Oaks, Planes or any other kind of trees or shrubs.

In transplanting a tree it is essential to take the utmost care in digging up the roots so they are not cut or broken off. It is not possible to save all, but take great care to protect and save all you can.

It is also very essential to keep the roots covered when they are out of the ground, they must not be exposed to either the sun or wind or to severe cold, and also protect them from being bruised or broken in the transplanting operation.

One ought to be as careful with the roots of trees as with the roots of cabbages and tomatoes. Whenever I see someone buying a dozen or two of vegetable plants, I am always astonished by the unconscious but careful attention these plants get, because often I notice the reverse attention given to trees and shrubbery.

Sincerely,

ADOLF MÜLLER.